AMENDMENT

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please **amend** the paragraph at page 1, lines 1-14, as follows:

The closure of a wound and the related hemostasis are affected physiologically by extravasating blood coagulating in the wound bed, thereby causing the closure of small blood vessels and capillaries. The wound healing setting in subsequently is effected by the aid of the provisional extracellular matrix (ECM) formed by the coagulated blood (Clark, R.A.F. et al., 1982, J. Invest. Dermatol. 70:264-269; Clark , R.A.F. (ed.), 1996, The Molecular and Cellular Biology of Wound Repair, Plenum Press, New York). That matrix, in addition to blood cells, essentially consists of fibrin as the structural substance serving as a reservoir for a number of plasam proteins that are important for the beginning of wounds healing, such as fibronectin (Mosesson, M.W. and Umfleet, R., 1970, J. Biol. Chem. ~~245:5726-5736~~ 245:5728-5736; Clark, R.A.F. et al., 1982, J. Invest. Dermatol. 70:264-269), vitronectin (Preisner, K.T. and Jenne, D., 1991, Thromb Haemost. 66:189-194), plasminogen (Castellino,F.J. et al., 1983, Ann. NY Acad. Sci. 408:595-601), plasminogen activator (Thorsen, S. et al., 1972, Thromb. Pathol. Haemost. 28:65-74), plasminogen activator inhibitor (~~Wagner, O.F. et al., 1989~~ Kruithof et al., 1987, Blood 70:1645-1653), and alpha$_2$-plasmin inhibitor (Sakata, Y. and Aoki, N., 1980, J. Clin. Invest. 65:290-297.)

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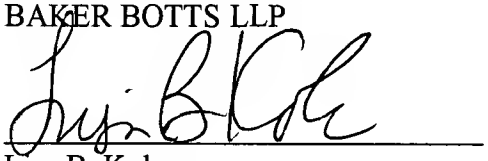
Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3), this paper is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. Thus, applicant does not believe that any fee is due in connection with the submission of this paper. However, if any fee is due, or if any overpayment has been made, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any such fee or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 02-4377. Duplicate copies of this sheet are enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,
BAKER BOTTS LLP



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